Wanderful Richness of the Region-The First Winter's Work-Hardeblee and Difficulties -People Who Stave Won Sudden Wealth-Pabelous Possibilities of the Mother Lode.

Los Anceles, Cal., Sept. 12.- The old miners and experienced gold seekers in California who are making ready to go to the Klondike mext March say they have received the best Information concerning the wonderful new gold fields in Alaska from Perry W. Maston. He came from Alaska on the last trip of the Portland ten days ago and has been confined to the house of his sister in Pasadena with a broken log since he came down the coast. He is middle said and had fifteen years' experience in gold mines in California and Colorado before he went to seek riches on the Yukon River in 1894. He sailed then from Fan Francisco with about \$400 as his total capital after a series of disasters in the gold mines of Amador county. He brought back with him from the north many thousands of dollars' worth He will return to the Klondike next March, when he will be prepared with mining which he has done comparatively little work thus far. Maston is a native of Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He is the son of a church janitor there. He went to New York in 1876 and was a truckman for A. T. Stewart & Co.'s dry goods house. He came West in 1880 and drifted into the mines. He had his share of the ups and downs of guid miners, and now at the age of 47 years he is rich beyond his wildest dreams.

"There can' be no doubt," he said as he lay on a stretcher at his sister's ranch near Ventura, "that the Klondike mining region is the richest yet found on this continent. Whether there will ever be the quantity of gold taken out that has been found in California is another question. The awful climare, the batsnow and ice for eight months in the year, and the fearful insect pests in the summer vill make gold mining there very expensive after a few years, when the cream of the diggings has been skimmed. You remember that one reason why gold mining was proseouted so long and ceaselessly in California after it had ceased to pay the individual miner royally was the delightful climate he worked in and the comparative enjoyment there was for one who liked the treedom of an out-of-door life all the year round. I have been all over the Klondike region, in fact, I spent so much time following up the creeks in that region last April, May, and June that I did not take out arly so much gold as my friends Berry, Clements, and Stults. They attended strictly to business from the hour they made their claims, while my investigating disposition got the better of me. I made sure I had a good legal claim and that it would last. Then I went out to see what prospects there were in that region.

"In six weeks I believe I travelled; over some

250 miles. I went for miles un Forty-Mile, Bouanza, El Dorado, Discovery, Oregon, and Wilson's creeks, and tramped miles overland. It was a most fascinating journey, notwitheling the constant hardships and the mosquitoes. I made trial pans for gold some twenty times a day, and I found gold about one-third of the time. No one can have any foca what an area of gold-hearing ground there is up there. I would not have believed it if I had not seen for myself. There are literally hundreds of acres of the low shore line along lionanza. Forty-Mile, El Derado, and Hunker creeks where the ground for a depth of two feet, several yards below the surface, is heavily loaded with golden flakes. Men there who get less than \$1 a yan are vexed at their lines. Hundreds and hundreds of pans of ground have yielded more than \$5 a pan. Along Discovery Creek there is a stratum seven feet thick of gold-bearing ground. One man told me that he got \$3 a pan right through a seven-foot layer of gravel there. I have no doubt there are many acres about as rich. The section in which the Kiondike miners have been at work in the past year is only about thirty-live miles/square. There had been little prospecting outside of that region up to the time I came away. There is no reason why the Klondike placers may not be excelled, or at least equalled, by gravel beds on the upper Yukon River in that region. I am convinced that on the American side there are hundreds of localities that will make fortunes for some men some day. But the miner in that region can do but four months' satisfactory work in a year, although some of the more robust and energetic times a day, and I found gold about

below has continued for ages. So there must be some rocks in that region heavy with virgin gold. If they can be found they will be so rich that the Kaiffr mines in South Africa and the fail be that the Kaiffr mines in South Africa and the fail bonanza mines of the Comstock will sink into Insignificance. Whenever these ledges can be found the wealth contained there will be so enormous that the present gold weshing in the Klondike placers will compare as the mere skimming of the golden stew.

"So far the miners in the Klondike region have been poor men, and most of them tenderfeet. Very few had had experience in gold quartz mines. They stumbled on the placers last fail, when they were all merely keeping soni and body together. Since then they have worked every possible hour in taking out the nuggets and gold dust. When some of the big mining companies get to work in that region next year and employ expert prospectors, the world may hear of veins of gold that will be far shead of anything yet known. Then there will come another problem in mining engineering, how to successfully and economically get the metal out in the Arctic regions; but never fear, invention is very fertle where there is gold to be had. It is not at all wild to say that the Yukon and Klondike regions will furnish \$30,000,000 yearly a few years hence.

"There will surely be more scientific mining done on the Klondike next year, and it will improve as inventive genius is called out by the exigencies of the situation. Last year we had only the crudest methods of gathering the golden harvest, and the tailings from the mines must concain many housands of dollars in gold duaped aside. The ground is always frozen. In the summer the gravel is thawed only a foot or so below the surface, and it is five to lifeen feet below that the gold is found, where it has percelated or drifted through to bed rock during untol ages. It is therefore necessary to build bonfires of wood or mose in holes and thaw out the gravel in the with much less labor and expense. I kn have had much larger fortunes in gold. Then the cold weather engentered carelessness in panning and sluicing the gold, for one is not so particular about saving a few dollars a day in gold mining when the mercury is away below zero, or clouds of hungry mosquitoes are dumming about his head and hands. Next season there will be many devices to overcome these difficulties. Why, to show the waste of gold in the tailings from the Klondike mines I need only mention the fact that Mrs. Clarence Berry, the California bride of the Klondike mines, paked out with a stick from gravel that bad been dumped aside several thousand dollars worth of nuggets. I believe she got allowether with her own hands more than \$10.000 worth of gold from her husband's claim.

"How did the Klondike mines come to be

she got allowether with her own hands more than \$10,000 worth of gold from her husbands claim.

"How did the Klondike mines come to be found? Well, there is a dispute as to the discovery of the placers. I was at Forty-Mile when the news came there, and 'was among the first few hundred men who stannessed to the dispings. It is senessly believed that a samon flaterman matted Hank Henderson found the first gold auggets, and confidentially told another finierman matted. Hank Henderson found the first gold auggets, and confidentially told another finierman in the hand was in the latter part of August, 18th. Mederanack went at once to see what there was in the dud and by digsting down several feet in the alluvial mode the first road mine in that recion. He panned out about \$50 worth of gold a day for a week. Meanwhite Headerson, who snew more about alluvial made the first road mine in that recion. He panned out about \$50 worth of gold a day for a week. Meanwhite Headerson, who snew more about alluvial made the first road mine in that recion. He panned out about \$50 worth of gold a day for a week. Meanwhite Headerson, who snew more about a little tradims post kinean as Fort Ogilvie, where be told of his discovery and showed a leather bag of gold. There were a dozen noor, discouraged Vukson miners there, and in a day all set out pell-mell for sould Hasir. In a few days more the news spread to Forty Mile, seventy miles distant, and to tirele tity. The minors sent for more supplies, and accumulated the order by base of gold that told at their success You nover an such an excited sampede of note. Every persible craft on the Vukson was pressed into service, and man men started across the country for the Klondike. All were poor and had been discouraged for months at heir failure on the Yukson & dozen men who made thousands of dollars on the Klondike.

when the news came of the Klendike finds.

when the news came of the Klendike finds. Clarence Berry and Clements, who are now millionaires, were the bluest of blue men when they went to the Klendike diggings. By October the news had reached Fort Yukon, but the navigation on the Yukon River had ceased then, and the steamer Arctic had made its last trip. So there were few arrivals in the Klendike diggings. By Oct. 1 there were over 1,000 people at Dawson City. The lumber mill that had been set up there did a big business, and Ladue, the first white man there, made thousands of dollars by selling cheap pine lumber to the miners at \$140 the thousand feet. The increasing cold made no difference to the crazy miners at Dawson City and in the cabins along El Dorado and Bonanza creeks. By October about 600 claims had been staked out up and down both sides of the creeks. The Canadian mining laws made few feet along the creek or river bank a single calin, and one man could have but one claim in each district. What a busiling there was for lumber to build shauttes and cabins! It was growing colder every day, and many men paid over \$200 the 1,000 feet for humber to hasten the building of some abode. Laborers that got a few dollars a day in August now were snapped up at \$15 and \$18 a day. The native Indians sold for garments for \$150 each or for some gewgaws that were more precious there than diamonds are here.

"When the middle of October came we were entirely out off from all the rest of the world. Once in about six weeks a few letters that cost us \$1,50 each for carriage came to Jaweson City from Juncau. But every one was too busy geting gold to think much of letters and newspapers. Gold, gold was the one topic of interest there. There were fires to build from the pitch pine, and then when the ground had been thaved and housened the alluvial was dug out and put in piles in a warn cabin. Then the fires would be started again and more digging would follow. Then on alternate days ice was melted and the water used for panning the gold. Sometimes a helf on of gravel wo

given a 5100 nugget for a siler of beefsteak. It did seem at times as if all the riches we were taking out were not to be compared with even the lowliest home in civilization. Then the prices we had to pay for the bare necessaries of life! There was sale flour that cost us 560 for a 100-pound seed; contish cost \$40 for 100 pounds; pork cost 60 cents a pound, bacon 80 cents; sugar was sold only in 25-pound lots for \$18; potatoes brought \$65 for 100 pounds, and dried fruits ranged from 70 cents to \$1 a pound. We paid 50 cents for the vilest concetton of alcohol and brown sugar that was called whiskey, and common flamed shirts were easyrly bought at \$16 each, while rubber boots that are absolutely necessary for placer mining sold for \$40 a pair. Slabs from the Dawson City sawmill were used for fires in the mines, and immense numbers were bought at 50 cents cach, while sawdust brought 25 cents a suck. All buying was done with gold, and \$16 an ounce for gold was the exchange value. We became as used to handling sold dust at Klondike before the winter was over as a saw miller does to handling sawdust.

"Now a word about the climate in the Klondike seep of the context was the sawdust to was the saw interded to the sawdust was the sawdust as the same and the sawdust at same and the sawdust at the same and the sawdust at sawdust at sawdust at same and the sawdust at sawdust at same and the sawdust at sawdust at same and the sawdust at sawdust at sawdust at same and the sawdust at sawdust at

miller does to handling sawdust.

"Now a word about the climate in the Klondike region. The collect weather last winter was in Becember. There were less than half a dozen thermometers in the whole region. The collect weather noted was 62° below zero, but it seemed no colder than 20° below. The air is so dry and crisp that men used to work in the mines in such weather. The wind nows almost constantly. The snow seldom falls more than three feet on the level, but it is present constantly from early October to April. A common winter dress of the mines is a garment that the native Alaskans-sell. It is a blouse of heavy skins, with trousers of liundreds and hundreds of paus of ground have yielded more than \$5 a pan. Along Discovery Creek there is a stratum seven feet thick of gold-bearing ground. One man told me that he got \$6 a pan right through a seven foot layer of gravel there. I have no doubt there are many acres about as rich. The section in which the Kiondike miners have been at work in the past year is only about thirty. Ive miles square. There had been little prospecting outside of that region up to the time! I came away. There is no reason why the kiondike placers may not be excelled, or at least equalled, by gravel beds on the upper Yukon River in that region. I am convinced that on the American side there are hundreds of ion calities that will make fortunes for some men some day. But the miner in that region can do but four months' satisfactory work in a year, aithough some of the more robust and energetic ones put in five and six months of work on their claims from has August to July.

"I have been asked many times how it is that non of the prospectors in the Yukon and Klondike region has yet made a vigorous search for good bearing ledges. You know our theory is that all placers have been fed by ledges of quartz-bearing virgin gold. In other words, virgin gold in the rocks has been to mand eroded during centuries of fine, and the golden particles have been washed down stream, and loiged and sunk in the alluvia gravei. This constant wearing away of rocks carrying gold with them to the beds of streams below has continued for ages. So there must be some rocks in that region heavy with virgin gold. If they can be found they will be so rich that the Katiir mines in South Africa and the some rocks in that region heavy with virgin gold. If they can be found they will be so rich that the Katiir mines in South Africa and thoughtons.

It is not a provided and sunk in the alluvial gravei. In the region the provided and particles have been washed down stream of the received the provided and sunk in the alluvial gravei. The constant washed to be a su

netting over their heads and shoulders and gloves on their hands, but there is constant suffering from the hands, but there is constant are frequent in summer and they are welcomed as a temp-orary relief from the plague of gnats and mosquitoes.

"What have been the biggest finds of gold in the Klondike region that you know of personality" was asked.

"Oh, that one by Dan McDonald on Bonanza Creek. I don't believe it has ever been equalled in the world's history. One day about the middle of last September McDonald, who is a partner of Joe Ladue, the founder of Dawson (ity, had three men working for him. The men were working rockers and suices, and they shovelied in gravel for four hours. They got for that work the enormous quantity of eighty-six pounds, worth about \$17,000. Charence Berry and his bride wife, who brought \$135,000 to San Francisco hast July, took out, with the help of two men, about \$13,000 in one week last October, when the mercury was down to zero, too. I saw them cleaning out the sluices one day last May, and they had several pounds of gold there then. H. S. Clements of Los Angeles said a man named Gray, from Grana Rapids, Mich., worked a claim together, and they hired five men to work for them. Clements told me they took out over 120 pounds of gold in wwweeks. I heard of a man named Sioan, from Vancouver, who, with one helper, cleared up \$40,000 in six weeks. He brought down on the Portland with him in July over \$60,000 in gold. When I was at Sixty Mile Creek last spring I saw a pfle of gold that had been taken out the week before I go: there. Three Englishmen named Manchester, Phibbs, and Drummond owned the gold. They were working on El Dorado Creek and sank a fifteen foot hole in the gravel, ten feet from the water. They kept striking in richer as they went down. Weil, at a depth of twolve feet they ran into the richest dirt I ever saw. For two weeks they could work a few hours a day when every pan was worth \$4, and sometimes a shovel full of gravel ran over \$1,200 as here. She has two good

dike in some months of the past year, and there are as many more two made about haif as much.

"One of the most surprising strokes of luck in the klondike was that by a young man maned Lawrence Brooks. I know him well. He came from a little village in Cayaga county, N. Y. He was a cash boy in a Buffalo dry goods house ten years ago, and came West as a train, riding on freight cars. He learned something about mining in the gold district in California, and more in a spirit of recklessness and adventure than anything else, he joined the Yukon mining rush in 1894. He had a terriole experience with cold and hunger for two years, and suffered more in that time than many men do in a lifetime of hardships. He was two pears to come back to the United States, and so he cayed on the Yukon. He tried gold mining in tify different shots, and lived on half raw salmon for days at a time. He says he was about to commit studied hast. Fortember when he realized that another long and dreadful winter was beginning. A friend told him to go out to klondike and make one more trial anyhow, for there were rumors at Fort Yukon at the time that the digsings were good on the Klondike. He sold his rifle for basiage on the last boat on the river before navigation closed. Well, in two ween's Brooks had made his claim to 500 feet along Bonama Creek and was working in the rold and fee to get out the golden hoggets. He came down on the Exceleior last mouth with about \$33,000,000. and he has worked but thirty feet of his claim. His properly is probably wenth \$250,000.

"What are the prospects of the tens of thousands of people who will grobably reach Kiondike next spring! Well, probably about a quarter of them will find some gold. About

every seventh or eighth man will make a fortune. The men who have had experience in LIFE ON THE KLONDIKE. every seventh or eighth man will make a fortune. The men who have had experience in
placer mining will do the best there. The days
for greenhorns at mining to make fortunes are
past in that region. Now that it is know
there is an abundance of gold there, the experienced fellows will rush in and know best
how to get it out. I expect there will be great
droves of men coming back from the Klondike
next summer and fall discouraged, mad, and
cussing that they were ever induced to go to
Alaska. That's always the way. Why, it
seems strange, but I know several men who
were in Fort Yukon last December, and knew
about Klondike finds, and finally went to the
diggings last winter to see for themselves.
They fooled and talked and clerked in a store
or worked at the sawmill in Dawson City, and
are still there with only \$1,000 or \$2,000 each,
while the tenderest kind of tenderfee all about
them were picking out \$1,000 a week at the
mines for months.

"I believe there are chances in the Klondike
"I believe there are chances in the Klondikes."

whill the tenderest kind of tenderfeet all about them were picking out \$1,000 a week at the mines for months.

"I believe there are chances in the Klondike region for several thousand more claims of more or less value. Some of them are very likely even richer than any yet worked. By the time I get back to Dawson City it is probable that a large part of these will have been taken up. About all the claims on Bonanza Creek were taken when I came away, and I heard of scores of men who saw several thousand dolians worth of gold in sight for taking out a little later. One men, a Swede, named Mathson, whom I used to know in Colorado, showed me about \$500 in gold dust and nuggets that he had taken out in two days before I left Dawson City. There are some men who will get rich anywhere, and you know there were multitudes of good sensible men who came out of the paimy days of gold washing on the American and Tricity Rivers in Califorina with only the clothes on their backs, while millions of dollars were dug out all about them. Now the climate and the awful winters in Alaska will keep a much larger percentage of men from making money there. I advise no one to go to the Klondike mines unless he knows what the ricors of the climate are and exactly what he will do when he gets there. I have not the least doubt that many lives will be lost in seeking riches there. For one not strong and robust and unused to hard labor it is almost suicidal to go to Klondike. The talk about the probability of starvation in Dawson City and that region I don't take much stock in. The Alaska Navigation and Trading companies have prepared well for auch a condition of afairs and have been putting in every bour since last June it, transporting food to the Klondike region, Besides there is an abundance of salamon always there, and, at the worst, bear meat will keep the Klondikers in de hor some time, although a white man forms a distilke for bear most after three consecutive men's of it. But all the same, there will be some very despondent and melan

dent and melancholy men in the Klondike country before the steamors come down from Yukom next spring.

"My advice to men who know about quartz mining and have had experience as prospectors so that they know pay rock when they see it, is to hunt for the mother lade that has fed the placers of the Klondike region. The man who finds that and locates a claim will surely have almost solid masses of ture gold. Kinr Solomon's mines of fletion won't be in it with that lode. I know of a company of San Francisco and Nevada capitalists who have hired a dozen of the best prospectors in the Northwest to so up the Yukon next spring and spend two years in looking for that mother lode. Why, if that lode is found and can be worked, it will demonetize gold as true as gospel."

LOOKS DARK FOR THE KLONDIKE.

4 Dominion Official Returns from Unalaska

OTTAWA, Sept. 17 .- James M. Macoun of the Deminion Geological Survey has returned to Ottawa from Behring Sea, where he had been ent by the Canadian Government to report on the seals. He had nothing to say as to the results of his trip, but spoke freely of what he observed in regard to the mining boom in

Mr Macoun's work took him several times to Unalaska, or Dutch Harbor, the last coaling station on the way to St. Michael, on the Yukon. Every vessel going up to St. Michael calls at Unalaska, and, in consequence, a visitor has an excellent opportunity of meeting the men who are seeking cold it Alaska. He talked to a number of miners who were returning about the conditions they encountered and also as to the value of the gold they had taken out. While all agreed the country was rich in gold, they preferred to return during the severe winter. The miners stated that the wealth of the Klondike region had been greatly exaggerated. He had spoken to a number of the returning miner, asking them how much they had made. None had secured more than \$20,000, while most had been satisfied with much less. Mr. Macoun said he met many farily successful miners, but the unsuccessful were the great majority. Hundreds of men of all ages and conditions—the raw country boys, the young men from the cities, and the bronzed and hardened miners, who had been in all kinds of perils—were coming back unsuccessful. They had gone in with the idea that they could get claims on the Klondike, but learned that every claim there had been staked, and that to dig for gold independently they must search for other streams.

Of the miners who are going up to the Klondike he found only 5 or 6 per cent, had had any experience in searching for gold. The miners at Dawson City, Circle City, and on the Klondike will be dependent, he says, almost solej upon the provisions taken in by way of the Vivin The majority of those powers. the Klondike region had been greatly exagger-

upon the brovisions taken in by way of the Yukon. The majority of those going by way of Chilkout and White passes are taking but few provisions with them. When Mr. Macoun-returned only 3,000 ions of freight had been taken up the Yukon by the two transportation combanies.

Companies.

The last steamer expected from the Yukon had not reached St. Michael when Mr. Macoun was at Unaleska, and it has not yet reached the mouth of the river. It is, therefore, quite certain that no more 'reight will be taken in this year. Of the 3,000 tons of freight carried into the Yukon 'his year, hardly more than one quarter is fool, the greater part being liardware, clothing, &c. Those who went in from the passes carried hardly enough to put them through the winter. As each man needs 500 pounds of provisions for the seven menths winter there, it can well be understood how many will get enough to eat. There are thousands of men in the country—at Pawson City, Circle City, and the hundreds of minling camps in various parts and on the Klondike. Not many of these took in sufficient provisions, and unless relieved will suffer terribly and perhaps atarve to death.

Mr. Macoun says he has rejoiced to know that the passes have been found so difficult that many thousands have been deterred from getting into the Klondike, and thus kept from swelling the number of those who are certain to suffer and starve this winter. He regards the untlook for the miners in the Yukon as a dark one, and does not think the companies there will be able to get in any more provisions. Log trains, however, may be able to carry in enough to enable the miners to live.

Faithful to His Old Partner. From the Denver Republican.

Roise, Idaho, Sept. 13.—The crowning act of a verbal plotge made between two men who were in business in California some years took place at the home of J. F. Taylor on Sunday. in Dushiess in California some years took place at the home of J. F. Taylor on Sunday.

About eight years ago J. F. Taylor was in business in California, and being in need of a partner, took J. C. New. After two years business grew dull and after a hard struggle they were compelled to give up. Without dissolving the partnership the men decided to part, so made an agreement that should fortune ever smille upon them, they would bunt each up and divide. Mr. Taylor drifted into Washington, engaging in business at Oakesdale for a time, and then boughta ranch on Cedar Creek, where he now resides. Mr. New went to Alaska, and when the riches of Klondike were heralded to the world was one of the first in the country and succeeded in making a small fortune, besides securing three claims.

Faithful to the promise that was made in the standow of a business failure he hunted Mr. Taylor drifted.

Faithful to the promise that was made in the shadow of a business failure he hunted Mr. Taylor up, and Sunday, in company with an attorney, went to the home of Taylor to get his nower of attorney for the disposal of his interest in some claims on the Klondike. Mr. Taylor also received \$27.500 as his half of the earnings of one of the claims. They have been offered \$100,000 for the other three claims.

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changed, tuned, polished, or repaired.

PICTURESQUE INCIDENTS AMONG THE GOLD HUNTERS.

000-The Girl to Man's Clothing Who is the Bereine of the Camp-Fortune for a San Francisco Walf-The Reverse of the Picture.

REDWOOD FALLS, Minn., Sept. 11 .- L. P. Larn, formerly in he employ of H. S. Baldwin of this place, is now in the Klondike gold regions, whither he went over the new pass by way of Edmonton with a lot of cattle. He has written the following letter from Dawson City to Mr. Baldwin, which was received here last Saturday: "Perhaps you would like to know what sort

of a town this is, and I will tell you. You have heard about wide open towns. This is one of them. Everything gots here. The saloons never Gambling goes on at all hours, In fact, nothing in the way of dissipation is ever becked at all. There is no city Government in this place of tents and shantles, but we have a Vigilance Committee, which takes the place of both the Covernment and the laws. You see, this is British country, up here, and most of the people are Americans, who don't know much about the law that governs this part of the country. This being the case, we run the place like we think we ought to. I don't mind telling you that I am one of the vigilante- myself. "I wish you could take a trip around town

here to see these things for yourself. Why, it is nothing at all for \$1,000 to change hands on the turn of a card. I mean that much in gold dust, for real money is a scarce article out here. Every man has a sack of dust, real money only being brought in now and then. Men buy or gamble by the ounce or fraction thereof. The dancing balls are lively enough, too, There are lots of women up here. These women come in from Scattle and San Francisco. I reckon that there are about 4,500 people here all told, but they can make nole enough for twice that many people.

"There is not as much killing going on here as you would think for, because we do not think much of bad men up here. We have planted about a dozen of that class in the last two months, and it has the effect of keeping the tough sort quiet.

"You see all kinds of people here, represent ing every nation we ever heard of in the States. Everybody is as good as everybody else; it don't make any difference what color he or she is. There is an old fellow here that used to be a slave and his wool is as gray as a sheep's pelt. He came out with us, or with our cattle that I took out for McGinnis & Co. He had no ich of going after gold-a barber by profession that I picked up to act as cook for our crowd of cattle drivers. Old as he was, he got the fever, staked out a claim, and you can be lieve it or not, but that old devil has cleaned up \$30,000 in gold dust. You ought to hear him talk what he is going to do with it. His name is H. John Atherton. He comes from down in Georgia, 'just a piece outa,' he says. He says that the daughter of the man that owned him during the war is living there on the old plantation, very poor. The old man is going back, so he says, and then he is going to buy that plantation, and then he is going to have this woman that's there do nothing but 'live like a lady' all the rest of her days. This is one of the cu lous things I have heard since I have been up here, and I believe the old man means just what he

BAVA If the papers print half of the queer things I see up here it would be better than any book. About three weeks ago there was an old fellow come from back East and he had with him a boy about 15 years of age. He was one of the alcest boys I have seen in this country. He and his shout 15 years of age. He was one of the nicest boys I have seen in this country. He and his father stated our a claim just east of a claim right on the river that the boys called 'Blue Richness.' I think the old man said he came from Massachu etts. He was a quiet, peaceable old man, minded his own business, and paid no attention to shybody, but after he commenced work on his claim a few days ago it got around that every pan he washed out had SU worth of geld tink. There are a lot of mean sons of guns up here, and when they think a man that has a good thing can be run off they just get together and try to run him off. So one night two or three of these fellons went to the old man stent, hoved their guns in the face of ght two or three of these fellons went to the diman's tent, hoved their guns in the face of mand his boy, and told them if they did not it of that claim within twenty-four hours they, ould get shot. The old man wouldn't say anying to then at all, so one of them afterward ned up, but just lay there, and the boy kept diet into.

owned up, but just lay there, and the boy kept quiet too.

"Afterward the old man, whose name is leany Williams, talked it over with the boy, and between them they agreed that they would stick to it. So hey took turns lying and watching for the claim jumpers. Three oer four days passed by and one night the claim jumpers came. The boy was asleep and the old man was on watch. Before the old man knew what had happened they bud shot him in the shoulders. The boy heard the shot and out he jumped, with a gun in each hand, dropped two of the fellows that were after them, quicker than a wink, and wounded a third. The fourth man was so frightened that he ran a way without firing a shot. Thened that he ran a way without firing a shot. Thened that he ran a way without firing a shot. Thened that he ran a way without firing a shot. Thened that he ran a way without firing a shot. ened that he ran away without firing a shot. Then for boy fixed the old man up a little and came down into the town and told what had happened. The boys got together right away and went out to the old man's camp and brought him back to lown and fixed him up the best the camp knew how, and soon found out that he was not bedly burt. After they made this dis-

went out to the old man's camp and brought him back to town and fixed him up the best the camp kaw how, and soon found out that he was not bedly burt. After they made this discovery, the kid dropped to the floor as though he had been shot. We picked him up and had him he at the head been shot. We picked him up and had him he about him a bunk, and then we found out that he was not a loy at all, but a girl—and as pretty a little girl as you ever want to look at.

"As I afterward got the story the old man was in fearful hand luck back East, and some-body told him about this place. His wife was dead and he only had one girl. He wanted to come out here and did not know what to do with her, in she just said she would come with him as a boy and made the old man agree to her scheme. Maybe you don't think the boys were all stack on her and her father after the little eplade I mention. There isn't anything in Dawson too good for them. That girl could marry any unmarried man in town, and I have heard that she is likely to take one of them before long, one of the best boys, and we will all be at the wedding.

"Lots of queer people have got money up here, or, as they call it, have struck it rich. On kid from San Francisco that everybody knows by the name of Wild Dick came here recently—no one knows how. He secured some old tools and a pan and went to work. He is just it years old and is as tough a kidas you ever saw, but he has cleaned up already \$2,000 for every one of his years old and is as tough a kidas you ever saw, but he has cleaned up already \$2,000 for every one of his years on earth, and now he is got; back to town.

"I'remember, old man, that back in Redwo d' Falls we used to think that fellows were in hard luck that had to ear pork and beans, but you are in great luck to get him on there. The eartile we brought up here him the should be and if he does it means that all he raises will be worth its weight it gold.

"Let me repeat that this is a tough country. I're using heart spring in not thought take the whole c

would make a lot more money than they will prospecting.

Foole out here get so that they do not think much about the gold. If you could see the amount of dust that changes hands on the faro table here every night it would make you hold your breath. You remember that old song we used to sing back East about 'Every day'll be Sunday by and by That's the way it is here, for all days are alike. We haven't got a preacher in here yet, nobody saying anything agent religion at all. In the rush for gold people forget everything else, is an old saying, and here it is confirmed.

Aged 107 and Can Thread a Needle Withou

Gilnesos. READING, Sept. 18 .- Mrs. Catherine Watts of Quakeriown was 107 years old on Wednesday. She was born near Quakertown, and she has always lived in the immediate vicinity. She lives now with her daughter, Mrs. John Frederick. In 1880, at the size of 90, Mr. Watts diet of cancer. Airs. Waits is the mother of tenchi-dren five of whom are living, the cidest 83 and the vouncest 37 years old. There are 48 grand-children, 129 great-grandchildren, and 23 great-great-grandchildren. Mrs. Watts can thread a needic without glasses. Her health is good. She has never been twenty miles from home. ways lived in the immediate vicinity. She lives

THE ETHER DRINKING HABIT. Vice That Hagan in Ireland and Has Spres

England and the Confinent.

From the Courrier des Etats Unis. Paris, Sept. 4.- The recent death from an overdose of other of the celebrated Dr. Luys, har brought once more into prominence the question of e peromania. A few years ago this vice was limited to England, but now it has reached the Continent. The ether habit, more refined perhaps than the passion for alcohol, is beginning to make many victims. We can count by hundreds now the people who take either every day. They mix it with alcohol, and in that way obtain a drink that intoxicates rapidly. The confirmed ether drinkers take it in its purity, and in ordinary doses of from eight to fifteen grammes. The beginners take water before and after their ether, but the hard drinkers neglect this precaution, which diminishes the burning sensation in the stomach. There are some ether

drinkers who take 150 grammes at a time. Drunkenness comes on rapidly, and also passe way in a com; aratively short time. The first symptom is violent excitement with abundant salivation. Sometimes epileptiform convulsion are observed, and when the dose is too strong they are followed by stuper. Nothing in the effects has been observed which resembles delirium tremens, except in cases in which whiskey and ether are blended.

But if drunkenness from ether is less degrading than drunkenness from alcohol, it is far re dangerous. It leads to insanity and death, and soon brings about marked changes in the

ing than drunkenness from alcohol, it is far more dangerous. It leads to insanity and death, and soon brings about marked changes in the temper and in the health of the etheromaniac. Take this portrait of the ether drinker and you will find serious motives for avoiding the drug; "The ether drunkard is quarrelsome and untruthful. His condition of mind resembles that of people afflicted with certain ervous diseases. He suffers from gastric troubles and nervous prostration. He becomes the alave of his passion, like the opium amoker; and the cures of the passion are rare. It is impossible to save a person afflicted with this malady, except on the condition of his renouncing completely the ether habit, and this seldom happens. As a rule, an etheromaniac is never cured, except by the impossibility of satisfying his passion. There is no other remedy but confinement and the closest guarding at all times."

Like the morphinomaniacs, the slaves of ether may become addicted to their vice after certain maladies. Sometimes, when a patient suffers from headache a handkerchief steeped in ether is put under his nose. Relief comes quickly, and he inhales the drug with delight. After a few inhalations great freshness in the face and in the respiratory organs is felt. To dose is doubled in order to double the agreeable sensation, with the result that a delicious ecstact is experienced, and gradually the habit is acquired and continues until at last an overdose results in death.

The origin of this singular vice is obscure. Some say that the Irish peasants began to drink ether in 1440, at the time when Father Matthew was preaching the crussed against alcohol. Others accuse the doctors of having prescribed ether too ilberaily. Finally, the question of price has its importance, especially among the poorer classes, for ether produces intoxication easily and is cheaper than alcohol.

Thank heaven, the ether drunkards are at present relatively rare in Paris. In London the keepers of the various squares and parks often find under the tr

JOHN BROWN'S PISTOL.

History of a Weapon in the Possession of

In the window of a curiosity shop in Third wenue is exhibited the pistol which John Brown used at Harper's Ferry. It is a long-barrelled, short-grip 32-calibre revolver of the "Chicopee" make, and all but one of its seven chambers con talu loaded cartridges. That one chamber holds an exploded shell, and from it was undoubtedly fired the leader's last shot before he was overpowered by the marines in the engines house at Harper's Ferry. The weapon is just as it was when in 1859 Brown's raiders were defeated and killed or captured in their first encounter,

Arms had been sent to Brown while he was in Kansas fighting the Border Ruffians and matu ing his plans for freeing the slave . Thes arms were mostly pikes, but some rifles and revolvers were sent by friends in Massachusett. through the agency of a Mr. Brewer, and this pistol was in a consignment from that source. After the first attack at Harper's Ferry, Brown's men retired to the engine bouse, taking with them a number of prisoners, among them Capt. Dangerfield of Virginia, paymaster of the United States Army, who was Brown's first captive. that time Brown was armed with a rifle and the that time Brown was armed with a rifle and the Chicopee revolver. Capitain, afterward Major Dangerfield, had known Brown slightly, and became much better acquainted with him during the brief period when he was a prisoner. He has written the most securate account extant of the charge of the marines under Col. Robert E. Lee, the breaking in of the engine house door, and the capture of Brown after he had failen, with a dozen bayonet wounds in his chest and arms.

Lee, the breaking in of the engine house door, and the capture of Brown after he had fallen, with a dozen bayonet wounds in his chest and arms.

At Brown's request, the pistol found on him was presented to Capt. Dangerfield as a memento. It remained in his possession uninterruptedly until 1884, when Thomas Hovenden, the tritist, who was killed a few years ago at a railroad crossing in New Jersey while trying to rescue a child, was at work on his painting "Last Moments of John Brown." At that time the pistol was sent to Mr. Hovenden, who, however, could make no use off it in the picture, soit was returned to its owner. Subsequently it was returned to its owner. Subsequently it was returned to its owner. Subsequently it was by him transferred to the dealer in curios in part payment of a debt. Not long after the weapon came into the dealer's possession his shop was visited by Edward G. Brewer, son of the man who had bought the arms for John Brown. The de-ler mentioned the fact that he had John Brown's pistol.

"Show it to me," said Mr. Brewer. "If it is genuine it should be a Chicoppe with a handsomely figured cylinder.

The curio dealer produced the revolver, which his visitor examined with great interest.

"That is the pistol, without doubt," said Mr. Brewer. "I can identify it positively."

Some time sayo William H. Schierfelin offered \$100 for the pistol, but the offer was declined. The dealer visite is a said Mr. Brewer. "I can identify it positively."

Some time sayo William H. Schierfelin offered \$100 for the pistol, but the offer was declined. The dealer visite is a saying that he would promably buy it at the owners price, but the owner replied that the weapon could be seen at his shop and nowhere else.

"It is too easy to limitate such a weapon," says the dealer. "He might have kept the original and sent me back a facsimile. That was done, as I happen to know, in the case of one of the most famous shooting cases in the history of this city. The weapon came into the possession of the pistol that killed so

GOLD FROM THE OCEAN'S BED. A Nugget Brought Up While Sounding Off

Newfoundland Banks.

From the Baltimore American. Second Officer G. Nath of the North German Lloyd ste mer Roland, which arrived at Locust Point yesterday from Bremen, has a small nugget of gold that came from the depths of the Atlantic Ocean. The nugget was drawn up

Atlantic Ocean. The nugget was drawn up from the ocean with the lead of the sounding apparatus while Officer Nath was ascertaining the depth of the water off the Banks of Newfoundland, when the Roland was steaming along through a thick fog.

When the sounding lead was lifted on the steamer's deck the nugget fellout, and it was probably brought up in the piece of leather that is used to fasten the lead to the sounding line. Officer Nath had no idea that he had found a piece of gold, but he put the little stone in his pocket, intending to keep it as a curiosity that had been taken from the bottom of the ocean. The next day he took the metal from his pocket, and the idea that he had found a nugget of gold dawned on his mind. The find was taken to Purser R. von Schmidt who spent several years of his early life in the gold fields of Australia. He promptly pronounced it to be gold. The officers of the steamer are at a loss to know how the nugget happened to be on the bottom of the ocean, and they think Officer with itself probably rested on the site of a gold field that will never be develored.

The longitude and histude of the position of the Holand when the find was made was not taken, but on the next oyage the officers will take request soundings off the Banks of Newfoundand with a lead that has a cup arrangement inside, which opens when it strikes the bottom. Officer Nath will have the nugget mounted, and will wear it as a scarfpin. The nugget was exhibited to the Custom House officials and a number of visitors on the Roland yesterday.



and a sense of pressure in the of the face,

noises in the ears, drowsiness, sometimes faintness and nausea, and invariably some form of indigestion, are the results of constipation. This is clogs the entire system. The headaches from which so many women habitually suffer are due to functional derangement directly traceable to a constipated

No one thing gives that pale, weary, worn, aged look so quickly as constipation.

The cure is

English PILLS

Wills' English Pills, without weakening the body in the slight est degree, cures the liver of its torpid condition, and thus gets rid of biliousness, bilious headaches, sick headaches, dizziness, flatulency, bad taste in the mouth, coated tongue, shortness of breath. tired, lazy feelings and general debility.

Wills' English Pills are a cer tain cure for chronic constipation. indigestion, offensive breath, headaches and disordered liver. Don't Only Cathartic forget the dangerous charac-That Does Not ter of these

symptoms of

disordered stomach and liver.

HARD TIMES AHEAD FOR IRELAND. Potate Crop Eulned by Blight and a Famine Feared.

From the Landon Daily News.

A grave calamity threatens the Irish farming population during the coming winter. Toward the end of June and the beginning of July there were general congratulations on the prospect of a splendid harvest. The potatoes looked exceedingly well, there was an excellent yield of hay, nats were luxuriant, and root crops generally gave promise of a pientiful return. To-day all the bright anticipations of two months ago are rudely deshed to earth, and instead of plenty and presperity, something approaching a famine starce thousands of the Irish farming and laboring population in the face. For the past six the end of June and the beginning of July there

starce indicates the trial raiming and abovering population in the face. For the past six weeks the weather has been of an unfavorable description, and the continuous drenching rain of the last cight or ten days has in numerous cases completed the rui of the crops.

Reports from all parts of the country tell the same world, depressing take. The hay is in many cases rotting. The oat crop is beaten down into the earth, where the ear, in not a few cases, has begun to shoot again, and what was early cut is badly tainted with mildew. But worse, most terrible of all for the poorer classes, the dreaded blight is playing deadly havoc with the potato crop. When all clies has failed, the points has been the mainstay of life for the impoverished Trish tenant; should that crop generally give way the cuttook would be grave in the extreme. Yet such a failure, unless there is an immediate and complete change in the weather, may almost be regarded as a certainty. The boom in wheat is not a mater for rejoicing in ireland; it only helps to give a deeper trage of darkness to a picture that is alloady sufficiently black. In several of the poorer distincts the Boards of Guardians hav already been brought face to face with the harsh real ties of the situation. Rates are in many instances in arrears and practically irrecoverable. To attempt to collect them would in not a few cases reduce the unfortunate taxpayers to the same position as the paupers for whose support they are taxed.

There is still, of course, a hope that there may be a change for the better in the weather, and that the worst may not come to pass, but even at t e best the prospect is a gloomy one, all the gloomier on account of the bright hopes of a couple of months ago.

TO HOLD SABLE ISLAND SANDS. The Canadian Government Growing Coarse Grass Along the Shores.

OTTAWA, Sept. 18.-The problem of protecting Sable Island from the inroads of the ocean is one that has engaged the thought of the Cana-

sable Island from the inroads of the ocean is one that has engaged the thought of the Canadian marine officials for some time. If the encroachments of the wavesgave promise of a complete annihilation of Sable Island, the authorities would not bother much about it; but the trouble is that the work of the waves merely carries the sauds further out to sea, and adds to the dangers of the shoals which surround the island; hence the efforts now made by the Dominion Government to maintain the territory of Sable Island intact.

A year or two ago the experiment was tried of planting, along the beach, a variety of exceedingly rank-growing grass, the roote of which, penetrating deeply into the soil, prevent the washing away of the foreshores of the Island. This grain, the seeds of which were procured from the Falkiand Islands, proved effective as a barrier to the waves and stayed further disintegration of the soil of the "graveyard of the Atlantic" wherever it was grown, and a further supply was sent for. The Governor of Falkiand Islands has advised the Harrine Department that he will provide a further supply of the tunsick grass seed as soon as the seed is available. This will not be before November. The Department of Marine and Fisherles has ordered that the growth of this grass shall be continued all around Sable Island, until the entire roost line is fully protected by it from the attrition caused by the ceaseless action of the ocean waves.

Giddiness, pain MURDER IN THE FAMILY.

QUEER DEFELOPMENT OF THE DRAUGHON-HALL FEUD.

head, flushing Jay Draughon Mills a Man in a Mentucky Feud and Flees to Colorado-There Re Kills His Uncle, and is New Under Arrest at the Hands of His Brother-in-Law, J. A. Dreughon

DENVER, Col., Sept. 16.-The killing of a sawmill hand in an isolated mountain camp in Park county last month has developed the story of a Kentucky foud full of interesting and dramatic incidents, Last week John A. Draughon, County Commissioner and receiver of the Circuit Cours of Knott county, Ky., arrived in Fairplay for the purpose of arresting his cousin and brotherbecause it slowly poisons and in-law and taking him back to Kentucky to answer the charge of murder, ordeal which the Kentucky official is passing though is not an easy one, I e man he was seeking lies in a hospital recovering from a gunshot wound. He is a blood relative, and his wife is a sister of the wife of the Kentucky official. When John Draughon arrived in Fairplay he was met by Mrs. Jay Draughon, who threw her arms about his neck and sobbed and pleaded for mercy for her husband. She begged John not to take Jay back to Kentucky. At the hospital Jay Draughon on his bed also joined in the prayers of his wife for elemency.
"Don't take me back to Kentucky," he begged,

"for that will mean certain death. I am doing well here, and will bother no one any more Here I can live a quiet life and keep my family in comfort." But John A. Draughon was obdurate. He had an

official mission to perform. His duty to his office demanded that he should take Jay Draughon, though a blood relative, back to Kentucky to suffer for a crime committed there, though the crime was the outgrowth of a feud in which the Draughons were arrayed against another family. The fall campaign is about to begin in Knott county, and the Draughons have always been a power in politics in that county. No official weakness could be tolerated even when the life of a member of the Draughon family was at stake. For this reason John Draughon resisted the entreaties o' the wife and the wounded man, and he ordered the local authorities to place a watch over Jay until he was sufficiently well to be transported back to Kentucky. Another very potent reason why John Draughon should bring Jay Draughon to justice is because the recent victim of Jay Draughon's aim, the saw ill hand, was no other than John's father, R. A. L. Draughon, Some time in 1891 Jay Draughon escaped from Kentucky immediately after killing a man named Cunningham. He settled in Colorado. He went by the name of Hiram Baker and in time was established near Grant, Park county, where he has been running a small sawmill. Last year his uncie, R. A. L. Draughon, who had killed a man as the outgrowth of the Draughon-Hall feud in 1895, joined Jay at the sawmill, and, as John Caudell, worked for the Hiram Baker of the mill. But the two men never got on peace-ably. Ten years ago Jay Draughon tried to kill his uncle, but was prevented by relatives. On

Hindman, Ky., and inquired: "Where do you keep that moonshine whis

that occasion he came into his uncle's store at

This overy in a backwoods country store is a most dangerous one to propound, and the old man was enraged in a moment. He told Jay to shut up and get out. This made Jay angry and he took aim with his shotgun and would have killed the storekeeper had not one of the brstanders knocked up the barrel. This quarrel was patched up because of the intense excitement then existing relative to the feud between

It was not long after R. A. L. Draughon, It was not long after R. A. L. Draughon, under the name of John Caudell, had come to Colorado to work in the sawmill when the two men began to quarrel. The subject of a division of the profits arising from the sawmill business become a bone of contention. On Aug. 18 the two men went down: Grant, and while there they drank too much whiskey. While under the influence of liquor they renewed the old quarrel. This continued during the ride home to the sawmill and became dangerous as they approached home. Two women riding out to visit Mrs. Hiram Baker were driving up a steep hill inthe wagon, while the two quarrelling men strode behind. Suddenly Caudell drew his ride and sent a buller after Baker, who was some distance ahead. Baker jumped into the wazon and escaped with the women, leaving Candell to make his way home afoot. Baker pretuared now for trouble, and he was not disappointed. As soon as Caudell could reach the sawmill he made straight for Baker's home. Baker met him at the door with a revolver in his hand. Caudell shot first, sending a bullet from his revolver loaded in his uncle's abdomen. Caudell staggered of to his tent, where he died the following afternoon. Baker was arrested and taken to Fairplay, where he was placed in a hospital. The Coroner's jury rendered a verdict that Caudell had died of a gurshot wound given by Baker in self-defence, and it seemed that the matter would be dropped.

When the news of his father's death reached under the name of John Caudell, had come to

died of a gunshot wound given by Baker in selfdefence, and it seemed that the matter would be
dropped.

When the news of his father's death reached
John Draughon he telegraphed to the Sherisf of
Park county to hold Baker as a fugitive murderer under an assumed name.

The Draughon Hail conflict originated in 1879.
The dead body of John Adams was found on the
street of Cattelisburg one morning. He had
been beaten to death in a hotel and his
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been beaten to death in a hotel and
Hall was responsible for the murder of Adams
Higgins vewed over the spot where his half
brother lay dead that Hall's life would have to
pay the penalty, and he was as good as his word.
Before the year ended Hall was shot and
killed in Floyd county. Popular sentiment was
with Higgins and he was never a masted.

The murders of Adams and Hall intensified
the feeling between the Halls and braughous.
Several attempts at killing were made, and for
a time bullets flew wildly, but p restently. The
Halls publicly vowed their intention of averaging the death of Henderson Hall. Higglis was
wasched and followed for a long time, and he
with his relatives, stood ready for battle t a
moment's warning. One day Higgins's bady,
riddled with builets, was found near Humiman.
For this crime Ben Jones, Sam Wrich and
Washington Craft were arrested and indicted.
The next murder was committed by Jay
Draughon during a drunken quarr i in Paintsville, Johnson county. The victim was a nen
neved Cunningham, and the quarrel was

Colorado as the Hiram Baker whom this story concerns most.

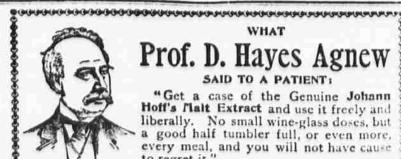
The next death was that of Henry II. in Hindman, his assailant being It. A. L. Drauge, in, the presperous merchant and political leaders of Knott county. Draughon had to get out of the State, and he hunted up his neithew Jan at the sawmill near Grant in this State. John A. Draughon, who succeeded his father in political power and who has personally directed the family affairs in Knott county during his father senforced absence from home, is now the central figure of the Draughon-Hall fend, the must return with his counts and brother-in-law the nursieers of his father, to Kentucky and turn him over to the authorities for trial for the murder of Cunningham.

Cuban Souvenir Dollars in Demand. From the Washington Evening Star.

From the Washington Evening Star.

Specimens of the new Cuban souvenir silver dollar, of which 1,000,000 have been issued if the purpose of raising funds to continue the waffor (recious, are being exhibited by proud owners in Washington. The coin is a particular observation of the head of the goideess of Cuban Trerty, with the inscription "Par is Libertal above it, and "1897 souvenir" beneath the the reverse side is the Cuban cout of arms and the inscription "Republica de Cuba."

The domain for the coins is so great that Treasurer Heulamin Guerra of the Cuban free lutted as particular of the Cuban republic, cannot supply orders of the Cuban republic, cannot supply orders of the Cuban republic, cannot supply orders of the Cuban republic country, and in case Cuban freedom is given as the standard silver dollar of the country, and in case Cuban freedom is given they will be redeemed at the rate of 100 and a in gold.



Prof. D. Hayes Agnew

SAID TO A PATIENT: "Get a case of the Genuine Johann

Hoff's Malt Extract and use it freely and liberally. No small wine-glass doses, but a good half tumbler full, or even more, every meal, and you will not have cause to regret it."

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. The Genuine JOHANN Hoff's Mait Extract must have the signature of "Johann Hoff" on the neck label.